

Message Text

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16

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 XMB-07 CAB-09 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00

SS-20 L-03 DRC-01 H-03 MC-02 TRSE-00 /108 W

----- 021590

R 260540Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2085

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

FAA BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

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DEPARTMENT PASS COMMERCE FOR COHEN; EXIMBANK FOR YOUNG

KUWAIT PLEASE PASS DOHA AND MUSCAT FROM DWOR

BEIRUT FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, TC

SUBJECT: CIVIL AIR: GULF AIR REQUIREMENT

1. THE FOUR LOCKHEED-CALIFORNIA L-1011-100 TRISTARS WHICH GULF AIR IS ORDERING FOR DELIVERY JANUARY, FEBRUARY, JUNE AND JULY 1976 WILL REPLACE AIRLINE'S PRESENT FOUR BAC VC 10'S ON PRIME TRUNKLINE ROUTE BOMBAY-GULF-BEIRUT-LONDON. NO AIRLINE DECISION YET AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE VC 10'S WILL BE RETIRED AND RESOLD, OR REDEPLOYED ON MEDIUM-RANGE, REGIONAL ROUTES (I.E. BAHRAIN-CAIRO, MUSCAT-CAIRO), AND POSSIBLE NEW ROUTES TO AFRICA, S.E. ASIA (I.E. BEYOND BOMBAY EASTWARD TO SINGAPORE), AND EUROPE (I.E. ATHENS, ROME, PARIS, GENEVA, FRANKFURT).

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2. GULF AIR GENERAL MANAGER ALLAN BODGER INDICATES TO RCAA THAT DECISION TO REPLACE AIRLINE'S THREE BAC 111-400 TWIN JETS (EACH OF WHICH WERE BOUGHT AS USED AIRCRAFT FROM BRITISH AIRCRAFT CORPORATION) WILL BE EFFECTIVEDURING 1975 AND WILL CONSIST OF FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES:

A. IF VC-10'S ARE KEPT IN SERVICE, AIRLINE WILL ORDER FOUR NEW TWINJETS, VALUED AT \$26 MILLION APPROXIMATELY, IN CATEGORY OF MCDONNELL DOUGLAS DC-9-50, BOEING ADVANCED 737-200, OR BAC 111-500.

B. IF VC-10'S ARE PHASED OUT OF SERVICE, AIRLINE WILL ORDER FIVE NEW BOEING ADVANCED 727-2V0 TRIJETS, VALUED AT \$48 MILLION APPROXIMATELY.

3. THE FOUR NEW TRISTARS, AS WELL AS GULF AIR'S PRESENT FLEET NOW REGISTERED UNITED KINGDOM (CAA) WILL PROBABLY BE REGISTERED MUSCAT. STERNER

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